What is claimed is:

1. A method of producing a joint between an end of a helically corrugated metal tube and a coupling comprising the steps of:

(a) screwing a support ring with a coarse thread that fits the corrugation of the metal tube and extends over a portion of an outer surface thereof into an end of the metal tube until a smooth walled area with a smaller outside diameter than a clear width of the metal tube remains both inside the metal tube and also protrudes from the end of the metal tube;

(b) screwing a thrust collar with a coarse thread that fits the corrugation of the metal tube onto the end of the metal tube so that a smooth walled area of the thrust collar, which is equipped with a flange, protrudes from the end of the metal tube;

(c) inserting a graphite sealant ring into the end of the metal tube until the sealant ring abuts against the smooth walled area of the support ring;

(d) arranging a tube piece between the coupling and the smooth walled area of the thrust collar;

(e) inserting a coupling with a neck whose cross-section corresponds to the cross section between the smooth walled area of the support ring and the tube piece, is inserted into the space between the smooth walled area of the support ring and the tube piece; and

(f) axially and radially deforming and compressing the sealant ring by action of clamping bolts, which are inserted into holes in the flange of the thrust collar and a flange of the coupling and clamp the flanges together.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, during the deforming and compressing step, the sealant ring is pressed into at least one corrugation of the metal tube.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein, during the deforming and compressing step, the volume of the sealant ring is reduced in a range from about 10% to 35%.

4. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, during the deforming and compressing step, the volume of the sealant ring is reduced in a range from about 10% to 35%.